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INVITATION

Holding together or driving apart? Germany and Poland in the European Union

**24-26 May 2023, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung
ul. Jarosława Dąbrowskiego 56, 02-561 Warsaw, Poland**

This workshop is co-organised by the Leipzig University, the University of Warsaw and the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung in Warsaw and part of the research project “Germany and Poland in a Differentiated European Union” funded by the German-Polish Science Foundation

Since the United Kingdom withdrew from the European Union, Germany and Poland are the largest fully and partially integrated member states in the European Union. In contrast to Germany, Poland has not introduced the European single currency and does not participate in existing forms of enhanced cooperation. Moreover, both countries take contrary stances towards key policy fields in the European Union, such as migration, energy and security policies. Particularly in the course of Russia's war against Ukraine, opposing positions towards their Eastern policies resurface. Finally, conflicting approaches to the question of rule of law and acceptance of the supremacy of EU law cause tensions in bilateral relations. Therefore, divergent future paths of bilateral relations seem possible.

The scenario workshop aims to compose alternative “futures” of German-Polish relations for 2040. After a methodological introduction, experts from both countries analyse pivotal impact factors providing the basis for the creation of four plausible future paths of bilateral relations. These four scenarios will be continuously refined throughout the workshop and finally be discussed with regard to the derived policy recommendations for decision-making in Germany and Poland. The participants apply an instructive analysis method, which allows to systematically deal with the uncertainties of an open future. The scenarios will be further elaborated and published in order to inspire academics and decision-makers in both countries.

This scenario workshop will be held in English and will be facilitated by Dr. Thomas Mehlhausen (Leipzig University).



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Programme

Tuesday, 23 May 2023

until 18:00 Arrival and check in, Motel One Warszawa-Chopin, ul. Tamka 38

19:00 Dinner, Restaurant Boscaiola, ul. Wiślana 8

Wednesday, 24 May 2023

09:30 – 10:00 Meet and greet & registration

10:00 – 10:10 Welcome

Daniel Lemmen, Konrad Adenauer Foundation in Warsaw

Prof. Robert Grzeszczak, Warsaw University

10:10 – 10:30 Introduction: aims and agenda

Dr. Thomas Mehlhausen, Leipzig University (workshop facilitator)

10:30 – 11:30 Methodological introduction: What are scenarios? Why create scenario? How to construct scenarios?

12:00 – 13:00 Key assumption test: Which future assumptions are solid?

13:00 – 14:00 *Lunch break*

14:00 – 16:00 Building a future compass: Which are the key impact factors of bilateral relations?

16:30 – 18:00 The futures of German-Polish relations: drafting preliminary scenarios

18:00 Individual evening arrangements

Thursday, 25 May 2023

09:00 – 10:15 Refining our scenarios: TELL IT procedure

10:45 – 12:30 Presentation and discussion of scenarios

12:30 – 13:30 *Lunch break*

13:30 – 15:00 Sharpening the Focus (1): discussion of the scenarios' distinguishing features

15:15 – 16:00 Sharpening the Focus (2): finalisation of scenarios

16:30 – 18:00 The normative turn: What can Germany and Poland do to optimally act in the future?

19:00 Dinner, Restaurant Mokolove, ul. Różana 14

Friday, 26 May 2023

09:00 – 10:00 What's the message? Policy implications of your scenarios

10:15 – 11:45 Presentation of scenarios

12:00 – 13:00 Concluding discussion: The future of Polish-German relations

13:00 *Lunch*

Departure